

**FINAL REPORT
OF THE
INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

October, 2009

INDIANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2009

Senator David Long

Chairman

Fort Wayne

Speaker B. Patrick Bauer

Vice-Chairman

South Bend

Senator Vi Simpson

Bloomington

Representative Brian Bosma

Indianapolis

Senator Brandt Hershman

Monticello

Representative Earl Harris

East Chicago

Senator Connie Lawson

Danville

Representative Dale Grubb

Covington

Senator Brent Steele

Bedford

Representative Scott Pelath

Michigan City

Senator James Merritt

Indianapolis

Representative Russell Stilwell

Boonville

Senator Connie Sipes

New Albany

Representative William Friend

Macy

Senator Timothy Lanane

Anderson

Representative Kathy Richardson

Noblesville

John M. Ross
Executive Director
Legislative Services Agency

INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE ON ADULT EDUCATION ISSUES

Membership Roster

Representatives

Greg Porter, Vice-Chairperson
Indianapolis

Shelli VanDenburgh
Crown Point

Charles Moseley
Portage

Robert Behning
Indianapolis

Randy Truitt
West Lafayette

Jeffrey Thompson
Lizton

Senators

Dennis Kruse, Chairperson
Auburn

Carlin Yoder
Middlebury

James Buck
Kokomo

Earline Rogers
Gary

Frank Mrvan
Hammond

Connie Sipes
New Albany

Staff

Irma Reinumagi
Attorney for the Committee

Francine Rowley-Lacy
Attorney for the Committee

David Lusan
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee

Chuck Mayfield
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

The Legislative Council directed the Committee to do the following:

- A. Study adult education programs and make recommendations to the General Assembly addressing at least the following:
 - 1) Gaps that exist throughout Indiana in adult education programs offered.
 - 2) Funding issues, including a comprehensive fiscal analysis detailing the extent to which the demand for additional adult education programming exceeds the financial resources available.
- B. Study early school start dates and calendar flexibility.
- C. Study the need for afterschool programming in Indiana.

II. INTRODUCTION AND REASONS FOR STUDY

The topics assigned to the Committee were derived from subjects contained in various House and Senate resolutions and legislation introduced during the 2009 Session of the General Assembly.

III. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met 3 times during the interim:

September 3, 2009. The Committee met to hear testimony and discuss adult education programs in Indiana.

September 30, 2009. The Committee met to hear testimony and discuss early school start dates and calendar flexibility and the need for afterschool programming in Indiana.

October 26, 2009. The Committee met to hear testimony concerning teen dating violence and to discuss proposed recommendations to be included in this final report and to consider and approve this final report.

IV. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee heard testimony, summarized below, from several individuals. (For a more complete report of testimony and other matters considered by the Committee, the minutes of the Committee's meetings can be found on the Committee's website (<http://www.in.gov/legislative>), or copies may be obtained by contacting the Legislative Information Center of the Legislative Services Agency.)

Adult Education Programs

Rep. Sheila Klinker explained that the issue of adult education was studied during the 2008 interim of

the General Assembly and she requested that the issue continue to be studied in the 2009 interim. The issue concerning adult education programs arose because the amount of funding for them has remained level over several years, while the number of students and the needs of the students in the programs have increased. She explained that while state funding is currently available only to school corporations as providers of adult education programs, some parties believe that private entities should be eligible to receive funding from the state to provide adult education programs. She asked the Committee to assist in finding funding for adult education by recommending additional money be included in the budget bill or by exploring alternate funding sources.

Several individuals testified concerning the types of adult education programs that are offered throughout Indiana and how the demand for additional adult education programming exceeds the financial resources available.

Carol D'Amico, Office of Adult Education, Indiana Department of Education (DOE), presented information concerning DOE's proposal to create regional adult education programs and align them with the Ivy Tech regional campuses. She stated that DOE is working with several state agencies to better coordinate the use of resources for adult education.

After School Programming

Sen. James Arnold spoke about his reasons for authoring the resolution during the 2009 legislative session of the Indiana General Assembly that referred the issue of afterschool programs to the Committee. He stated that his background in law enforcement gave him many examples of the need for afterschool programming to give children a place to go during nonschool hours and as a help to parents who could not be home to supervise their children.

Several individuals representing school corporations, YMCA's, state agencies, and other organizations and associations testified concerning the types of afterschool programs that are available across the state, the value afterschool programs provide for children through enrichment opportunities, the need for the programs to continue to exist, the need for a safe place for children, and the need for sustainable and adequate funding.

Early School Start Dates and Calendar Flexibility

Rep. Ryan Dvorak spoke concerning the bill that he authored allowing school calendar flexibility during the 2009 legislative session. He thanked the Committee for considering the issue.

Several witnesses testified concerning the start date for school years. Many witnesses spoke in favor of a longer summer break based on the following reasons:

- (1) Children can not concentrate in extreme heat situations.
- (2) Tourism and the hospitality industry suffer when school starts at an earlier date.
- (3) Early school start dates reduce the number of attendees at the state fair on weekdays.

- (4) Students and teachers lose opportunities to earn money at summer jobs when school starts early.
- (5) A traditional summer break would allow families more time together during the summer.

Several witnesses testified that they had concerns about reducing the number of instructional days or the amount of instructional time. In addition, teacher collective bargaining agreements and parental custodial arrangements were cited as concerns by witnesses. Some witnesses testified that a state mandate requiring schools to start by a particular date is needed to make sure a traditional school calendar is preserved, while other witnesses felt that school start dates and other calendar flexibility issues can be best addressed at the local level.

Chairman Kruse distributed two preliminary drafts (PD) for the Committee's consideration:

- (1) PD 3111, concerning prohibiting public schools and accredited nonpublic schools from beginning student instructional days for the school year before the first Monday in September (Labor Day); and
- (2) PD 3112, concerning prohibiting public schools and accredited nonpublic schools from beginning student instructional days for the school year before the fourth Monday in August.

Teen Dating Violence

Several witnesses testified concerning the prevalence of teen dating violence and the need for school-based educational programs that are based on healthy relationships and are evidenced based and interactive.

V. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee made the following recommendations:

The Committee recommends that legislation be prepared for the 2010 legislative session regarding educational programs concerning teen dating violence. (Adopted by voice vote, 11-0.)

The Committee encourages the General Assembly to increase funding for adult education so that existing programs and facilities around the state remain solvent and may continue to operate. (Adopted by voice vote, 11-0.)

The Committee supports sustainable and adequate funding for afterschool programming. (Adopted by voice vote, 11-0.)

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly continue to review the issue of instituting a uniform, minimum school start date and take further action as necessary to address the issue in the future. (Adopted by voice vote, 10-1.)

The Committee requests the Legislative Services Agency to compile, before December 31, 2009, data on statewide school energy consumption and transportation costs and submit the data to the members of the Committee. (Adopted by voice vote, 10-1.)

The Committee unanimously adopted the draft final report with the understanding that the report will be modified to include the actions taken at the October 26, 2009, meeting.

WITNESS LIST

Sen. Jim Arnold, Michigan City
Randy Ballinger, Walnut Creek Golf Course and Indiana Golf Course Owners Association
Becky Bechtel, Save Indiana Summers
Anna Blankenship, Parent
Melanie Brizzi, Administrator, Indiana School Age Child Care Program, Division of
Family Services, Family and Social Services Administration
Tina Bruno, Save Indiana Summers and Coalition for a Traditional School Calendar
Frank Bush, Indiana School Boards Association
Dr. Jeffrey Butts, Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, Indianapolis
Anita Carpenter, Chief Executive Officer, Indiana coalition Against Sexual Assault
Pat Casey, Indiana Marine Trades Association
Alfredo Casetti, Parent
Jennifer Casetti, Parent
Carol D'Amico, Office of Adult Education, Indiana Department of Education
Betsy Delgado, Adult Basic Education Coordinator, Washington Township, Indianapolis
Lisa Donati, Parent
Rep. Ryan Dvorak, South Bend
John Ellis, Indiana Public School Superintendents Association
Dr. Roy Fowles, Purdue University North Central
Sue Fox, Alternative Education Specialist, Indiana Department of Education
Peggy Hinkley, Superintendent, Metropolitan School District of Warren Township,
Indianapolis
Tim Holcomb, Director, Four County Area Vocational Cooperative, Noble, DeKalb, LaGrange, and
Steuben Counties
Gloria Hubbuch, Coordinator of Adult Basic Education, Wayne Township Schools,
Indianapolis
Toni Kayumi, YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne
Rep. Sheila Klinker, Lafayette
Dr. David Klinkose, Executive Director, Indiana Afterschool Network
Christine Kramer, Parent
Sara LaGambina-Lockwitz, Parent
Chuck Little, Indiana Urban Schools Association
John Livengood, Indiana Hotel and Lodging Association and Indiana Restaurant Association
J.D. Lux, Executive Director, Governmental Affairs, Ivy Tech Community College
Julie Marsh, Chief Executive Officer, Domestic Violence Network
Theresa Mason, Parent
Chloe McClellan, Survivor of Teen Dating Abuse
John Newport, President, Indiana Association for Adult and Continuing Education
Debbie Norris, Mother of Heather Norris and Founder of Heather's Voice
Tom Oestreich, Assistant Principal, Eastwood Middle School, Washington Township,
Marion County
Heather Perkins, YMCA of Greater Indianapolis
Dr. Bob Pychinka, Indiana Association of School Principals
Sandra Quarles-Towne, Indianapolis Public Schools
Derek Redelman, Indiana Chamber of commerce
Mary Roberson, Perry Central Community School Corporation

Joy Rothrock, Indiana State Fair Commission
Ken Sauer, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
Stuart Showalter, Indiana Custodial Rights Advocates
Sally Sloan, Indiana Federation of Teachers
Dan Tanoos, Superintendent, Vigo County School Cooperation
Dick Thompson, Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus and Indiana
Association of Fairs, Festivals, and Events
Arlene Waitkins, Retired Educator and Parent
Beth Wyrick, Parent
Chad Zaucha, YMCA of Clay County
Gail Zeheralis, Indiana State Teachers' Association
Debbie Zipes, Associate Director, Indiana Afterschool Network